



THE Caledonian Mercury,

BEING

A short Account of the most considerable News, Foreign and Domestick.

Edinburgh, Monday August 13, 1722.

From the Evening Post, August 7. 1722.

Since our Last arrived a Mail from Holland, the from France, and several from London.
Paris, August 12.

WE have received Letters from Sicily of the 15 of last Month, by which we have it confirmed, that the Ottoman Fleet has left the Channel of Malta and the Seas thereabout, without having committed any Hostility; 'tis conjectured they are now on the Coast of Algiers and Tripoli, and will continue there some Time, that they may be at hand to succour these two Places, in case the Spanish and Dutch Squadrons should attempt any thing against them. The same Letters add, That the Protecting of these Places was the real Cause of the Grand Seignior's sending his Men of War to Sea. The Marischal de Villeroy, the King's Governor, has been banished to his Country House, whither he was carried the 10th Instant in the Evening. 'Tis thought the Marischal Duke of Berwick will be appointed to succeed him as his Majesty's Governor. 'Tis talked, that the Affair of the Succession of Tuscany and Parma is near being concluded in the following Manner, That after the Extinction of the Families now possess'd of these States, they shall be divided between the Infant Don Carlos and Prince Ferdinand of Bavaria.

Dantzack, August 1. If we may credit our Letters from Russia, the Tartars who rifled the Russian Merchants trading to China, and would not give Satisfaction for the same, when demanded by the Russian Ambassador, have now thought fit to send some of the chief Men of their Country, as Deputies to the Russian Emperor, to beg Pardon, and offer ample Restitution: Whereupon his Majesty, contenting himself with their Submission, has countermanded the March of several of his Regiments, having already a sufficient Number of Troops by him to restore the Sophi of Persia to his Throne, which they say is now the main Design of his Russian Imperial Majesty. This is what the Russian Ministers are pleased to divulge, for which, 'tis conjectured, they have proper Directions from their Court.

From the Weekly Journal, August 4. 1722.

Filium Parca dedit nascenti matri ab alvo. Hom.

*Fortune came smiling to his Mouth, and woo'd it;
And purpled Greatness met his ripen'd Tears. Dryd.*

THE great PLUTARCH, in his Life of *Alexander the Great*, has given a few short and useful Instructions to all Writers of Lives after him, what Methods to observe in that Part of History. He says, a Writer is not obliged to expatiate largely on every particular Circumstance of the most celebrated Parts of his Story: For, the most glorious Exploits do not always furnish us with the clearest Discoveries of Virtue or Vice of Men. Sometimes a Matter of less Moment, an Expression, or a Jest, informs us better of their Manners and Inclinations, than the most famous Sieges, the greatest Encampments, or the boldest Battles whatsoever. Therefore, as those who draw by the Life are more exact in the Lines and Features of the Face, from which we may often collect the Disposition of the Person, than they are in the other Parts of the Body; so should an Historian, by penetrating into, and describing the secret Recesses and Images of the Soul, endeavour to express the Lives of Men, and leave their more shining Achievements to be treated of by others, if his Design be to write the Lives of Men, not Histories.

Thus a Man, who should undertake to write the Life of the *deceas'd General*, whose Name and Actions have made such a great Noise in the World, must not be content with giving a long Detail of every Circumstance of all the Sieges and Battels in which he was Victorious, or the Number of Squadrons and Battallions of which his Army was compos'd. Such Descriptions will serve but little towards letting us understand, whether *Virtue* or *Passion* was the Spring that gave Motion to all his Actions. They must be only introduc'd in their Order as *memorable Incidents*, and *beautiful Ornaments* of his Life.

To speak only of the *Military Actions* of our *General*, will take in but a small Compass of his Life; for his Grace was grown into Years before he acquired any Reputation for Arms. It will be necessary to begin with his first Appearance upon the Theatre of the World, and trace him upwards through all the Mazes and Turus in his Ascent to Fortune. And since we cannot think of a more entertaining Subject, we shall attempt the Character of this great Man with all the *Candor* and *Fairness* that a Pen, altogether *impartial*, can suggest, leaving it to others to illustrate amply, when the History of his Life shall be writ at large.

His first Step to Preferment was his serving the Duke of YORK, in the Quality of a Page; his Father being a Gentleman of a very small Fortune, thought this a good Provision for his eldest Son. There was a Lady of this Family also who had the good Fortune to *please* this PRINCE; and when it was discovered that she was with Child, and some of her Friends were scandaliz'd at it, our young Courtier cry'd out, in a kind of Ecstacy, *That his Fortune was made*. To this Amour of his Relation he owed the Honour of being Uncle to the Duke of Berwick, natural Son to King JAMES II.

From this Time he began to be in great Favour with that PRINCE, and his Father was knighted, and sent into *Ireland* with a good Employment; so true is the old Proverb, *That a Friend in the Court is as good as Money in the Purse*; and it was observed, not without Envy, that his Master had a personal Kindness for him, of which we shall give a single Instance hereafter.

It does not appear that he was a Man of any Letters, for being, as we observed, early at Court, he made the Court his Study, as being the kind of Learning by which a Man was most likely to make his Fortune in the World; and in this he was a great Proficient. It is known, that the great Knack there is to find the weak Sides of great Men, and to humour them: which he was a great Master of, and knew as well how to make his Advantage of it. He was extremely well bred and polite, but not witty in Conversation, his Temper ever inclining to the *serious* and *solid*. This sort of Turn does not fit a Man for the Conversation of the Ladies, without whose Favour he could scarce do his Business well at Court; but he had another Accomplishment, which is a strong Recommendation to their good Graces; for in his Youth he was much admired for the Gracefulness and Beauty of his Person.

Thus he sprung up and flourished under the Protection and Favour of the Duke of YORK, by whose Countenance and Interest he had got Preferment in the Army. It is well known that the Influence that PRINCE had over the King his Brother was so great, that it alarmed a considerable Part of the Nation. The Court was not insensible of it, and to quiet the Clamours of the Party, it was resolv'd, the Duke should withdraw into *Scotland* and reside there for a while. In this Voyage (for he went by Sea) a great Number of Noblemen and Gentlemen attended him; and upon the Coast of *Scotland*, a furious Tempest arising, the Ship was stranded, and being crowded with Passengers, it was judg'd that there was no possibility of saving the Vessel, or any of the Passengers but such as could go ashore in the Long-Boat. As soon as the Boat was handed out, and the Duke of YORK got into it, two Noblemen stood by the Gunnel with their Swords drawn, to hinder the Crowd from pressing into the Boat; lest it should be overset, and would admit none to enter but such as the DUKE should call. When His HIGHNESS had called so many, that the Seamen assur'd him it would carry but two more, he call'd the two Noblemen before mentioned, who prevented the Crowd from pressing into and sinking the Boat, but they refus'd to go in, saying they had hindred others from the Chance of saving their Lives, they would run the Fate of Danger with them. I could not omit this Action, though it may appear a Digression, because it had something in it as generous and noble as any thing we read in the *Roman History*. One of these was the Lord O'Brien, of the Family of the present Earl of *Down*; the other a Gentleman of the same Country, whose Name I am sorry I cannot likewise remember.

But to resume our Discourse, these two refusing the DUKE's Favour, two others were call'd, and the Boat put off; then his HIGHNESS, turning his Eyes back upon the Ship, saw Mr. *Churchill*, for then his Grace of *Marlborough*, had no greater Title, standing upon the Deck, whom in his Hurry he had forgot; upon which he order'd the Boat to put to the Ship again, to take him in at all Hazards. This was done, though the Seamen laid before his HIGHNESS the Danger of it; and this I take to be a natural Proof of the Personal Affection which that PRINCE bore to him. This Ship, with a great Number of Noblemen and Gentlemen, perish'd in half an Hour; and among the rest, perished the two generous Heroes, who deserv'd a Life of longer Date.

His

His HIGHNESS did not continue very long in Scotland; at his Return he was joyfully received by the People, and his Influence with the King his Brother was as great as ever. Mr. Churchill was promoted to a better Post; there being a War at the time betwixt France and Holland and the Empire, there was an English Brigade, under the Command of the Duke of Anjou, sent to the Assistance of France. Our late General was upon this Command; we know nothing particular of his Behaviour there, yet there is one Circumstance worth taking Notice of, which is, that he went at a certain time to the great Marechal Turenne, who then commanded the French Army, and desired Leave to come to England, having received Letters which required his immediate Presence. 'Tis said, the Marechal made him this Answer, *That if his own Honour would give him Leave to go at a Time so near a Battle, for his Part he wou'd; for, it seems, both Armies were so near, that an Action was expected every Minute. I could not omit this Fact, having it from very good Authority; and it having been often made use of, since the Rise of this great Man, to prove that his Conduct was not over-ruled with too much personal Covetage.*

However, this brings it into my Way to take Notice of a Remark that has often been made by thinking Men, that there are two Sorts of Valour: The first is *natural Valour*, the second *Valour by Reason*. The first is fittest for inferior Officers and common Soldiers, the last for Generals. From the Circumstance beforementioned, and some others, we have Reason to think, that the Valour of our General was of this latter sort: Cardinal Richieu was of Opinion, that it was best that subaltern Officers and common Soldiers should not be Men of Sense, or any Understanding: It is enough if the Soldiers have Hearts, and that the General only have a Head. That we had Soldiers with Hearts, and a General with a Head, wherever this great Man commanded, is not to be denied; at least his Enemies will allow it, who, it is presumed, may pass for reasonable Judges in this Case.

Perhaps, to disprove what has been above alledged, it may be urged, that our General never discovered the least want of Resolution. But since we have given a Hint concerning *acquired Courage*, or *Valour by Reason*, we can quote an Example to make it credible, in the Person of Oliver Cromwell; who, without injuring the Character of our late General, we may allow to have been his Equal in Boldness or personal Bravery.

Sir Richard Dugdale and Roger Masley tell us, that at the Battle of Edgehill, which it seems was the first Action that Oliver ever had seen, he being then a Captain of Horse in the Earl of Essex's Regiment, absented himself from the Battle; and, observing from the Top of a neighbouring Steeple the Disorder the Right Wing sustain'd from Prince RUPERT, he was so terrified, that slipping hastily down by a Bell Rope, he took Horse and ran away with his Troop; for which Cowardice he had been cashiered, but for the powerful Mediation of his Friends. And this is a Proof, says one of the abovementioned Writers, that the *Temperature of Mens Minds and Bodies, by Use and Ambition may be entirely altered.*

But it is Time we should proceed to the Reign of King JAMES II. when Preferment came quick upon our General; he was soon advanced to the Post of Major General, and created a Peer of the Realm; he had the Ear of his Master, yet seem'd to command all things else. It is said that King JAMES thought him to be above all Men firmly attach'd to his Interest; considering him as a *Root of his own planting*, and one who had grown up and flourish'd only by his Warmth: But the ready Part which he acted in the Revolution, convinced that PRINCE of his Mistake; and our General, by his Forwardness in that Affair, acquired either greater Glory, or greater Infamy, than any other Person who had a Hand in it.

It has been a Dispute for above seventeen hundred Years, whether Brutus did honourably in conspiring against Caesar, or not? We cannot make a Comparison betwixt that Action of Brutus and our General; because the Circumstances are different. Brutus being defended of a Patriotic Race, and one of the most noble, and popular Families of the Romans, was by his Birth, as well as Virtues, intitled to the greatest Offices of the Commonwealth; and, I think, it can be proved, that he owed Caesar no Obligations; or if he did receive some little Favours from him, they must be inconsiderable to a Man who did not want them; and therefore he owed his Country more. Perhaps, the same Thing may be said of all honest Men; but when this is urged in Defence of our Revolutionaries (I mean only such of them as were the Creatures of King JAMES) it naturally leads us to consider the Course of their Actions both before and after this extraordinary Step; that thereby we may make a Judgement, what Share the Love of their Country, and what Share Passion, or private Interest, had in their Conduct upon this Occasion.

But as Brutus, of all the Romans of that Age, was the greatest Example of Patriotic Virtue; we have Reason to believe that he had nothing in his Heart, or in his Designs, but the Liberty of his Country, when he joined in the Destruction of Caesar; for Caesar was an Usurper. The same cannot be objected against King JAMES II. for he came to the Throne by the Laws and Constitution of his Country. But there is one determined Point which amounts almost to the Thing, that it is lawful to resist and dethrone a PRINCE among us, whenever he goes to in-croach upon the Liberties of the People: And this Piece of Policy eludes, it is a Justification of that Action. Allowing this, it will remain a Dispute which has the greatest Honour in dethroning a Tyrant, either the Men in a private Station, or his Favourites and Ministers; I mean those who have been his Advisers, and the Tools and Instruments of the Tyranny. For my Part I am inclined to believe, that an honest Man will decline a publick Employment, when he sees such Measures taking as he cannot with Honour join in: and will quietly lye by, till Providence present him with an Opportunity of relieving his Country; and thereby avoid the Disgrace of being a Traytor to his PRINCE, and the Infamy of being a Party in promoting the Distress of his Country: Therefore I conceive the latter deserves Preference. We have reason to believe this was the Sense of the late Mr. Addison, who made his CATO pronounce, *That would*

When impious Men hear Story, and to equity smol said
The Post of Honour, is a private Station.

Much may be said on both Sides, as to the Behaviour of our General in this Revolution. But perhaps, it may be a Subject too delicate for us to determine upon. We shall therefore leave it to the Gentlemen who are Writing his Life; but who, after all, perhaps may determine it, either according to the prevailing Follies of the Times, or to the Prejudice of personal or party Opinion in respect to Party.

The Sequel of this great Man's Character, (the whole being too long for a single Essay) shall be continued in our next.

From

From the Whitehall Evening Post, August 7.

Vienna, July 29. Yesterday Mr. St. Saphorin Minister of the King of Great Britain, conferred with Prince Eugene, and soon after an Express was dispatched for London. 'Tis confidently reported, that this Court will not restore Commachio to the See of Rome, till all Affairs concerning the Succession of the Dominions of Tuscany and Parma are entirely adjusted.

Cambrai, August 8. We continue still between Hope and Fear, with Respect to the Opening of the Congress. We can have no Certainty till the Lord Whitworth arrives here from Paris.

Brussels, August 10. Last Thursday the Marquis de Prie, entertained the Ministers of France and Holland, and several other Persons of Distinction of both Sexes. Prince William of Hesse Cassel, the King of Sweden's Brother, is arrived here, yesterday his Highness dined with Felt Marthal Vehlen, and supped in the Evening with the Marquis de Prie.

Vienna, July 28. We hear from Constantinople, That the Turks are not only alarmed at the Alliance which is on Foot in Europe between several Christian Princes, but also at the unexpected Approach of a formidable Army of Muscovites towards Astracan.

Copenhagen, August 4. The Master of an English Ship, arrived here from the East Sea, relates, That he saw the Muscovite Squadron, commanded by Vice Admiral Gordon, between Riga and Dantzick.

Basil, August 2. 'Tis confirmed, That the Turks have invested the Town of la Valette in the Island of Malta, whence its concluded, that their chief Design is against that Island; but in regard the Emperor is as much concerned as any of the Italian Princes in the Preservation of the said Island, as being the Bulwark of Naples and Sicily, a War between some of the Christian Princes and the Infidels seems unavoidable.

London, August 7. Yesterday at Guildhall Number 18,039 was drawn a Prize of 1000 L.

'Tis said Captain Kelley, who was lately committed to the Tower, where he continues under Confinement, has made a considerable Discovery.

On Friday last one Leman a French Soldier in the 3d Regiment of Guards, was committed Prisoner to the Savoy, being charged, as we hear, with drinking the Pretender's Health.

We hear that a Person of Distinction of North Britain was also seized yesterday in Hyde Park, by one of his Majesty's Messengers.

'Tis said Mr. Patten the Clergyman, formerly an Evidence against the Rebels at Preston, hath his Pension lately advanced from 50 to 80 L. a Year.

Wye's Letter verbatim, London, August 6.

TIS advised from Warlaw, That the chief Points to be taken into Consideration by the General Diet, are, the Safety of the Country both at Home and Abroad, the Peace with the Crown of Sweden, the Czar's Pretensions to the Title of Emperor of all Russia, the Crown of Poland's Pretension to Livonia, and its Right to Courland, and lastly, the Differences between the Kingdoms of Poland and Prussia.

The Governour of Syracuse in Sicily, has writ to the Imperial Court, that some Ships of the Grand Seignior's Fleet had put 300 Men on Shoar near the said Place, but without Arms, and desired to be supplied with fresh Water and Provisions. To which the Governour answered, That the Troops ought in the first Place to withdraw; and that for the rest, he could not grant their Demands, excepting so far as it related to fresh

Water

Water, without an exprels Order from the Court; especially at a Time when the Plague raged in several Countries, and even in Turkey: That moreover it was not agreeable to the Right and Custom, to come with armed Vessels upon another Sovereign's Dominions without his Knowledge, much less to land Troops. Hereupon the Emperor sent Orders to his Resident at Constantinople, to represent to the Porte, That his Imperial Majesty was very much surprized to hear what has passed so contrary to Usage; that this however is passed over in Silence, in consideration of the Peace that is between the two Empires, and that in Expectation that they will not attempt any Hostilities against the Order of Malta, which might prove of worse Consequence than they imagin. Letters from Sicily, which came Yesterday by the French Mail, confirm the Retreat of the Turkish Fleet from Malta; and 'tis thought they are now sailed towards the Coast of Algiers and Tripoli, to defend those Places, in case of an Attack from the Dutch and Spaniards whose Fleets are in those Seas.

Letters from Smirna relate, that the Rebels, in pillaging the City of Ispahan had taken away all the Effects belonging to the European Merchants in that Capital. They add, that the Turks threaten the Port with a General Insurrection.

'Tis said, that the Dispute touching the Succession to the Dominions of Tuscany and Parma, after the Decease of the present Male Heirs, is as good as adjusted on the Foot of Partition, between the Prince Don Carlos of Spain, and Prince Ferdinand of Bavaria.

On the 9th Instant, his most Christian Majesty was confirmed in the Chapel at Versailles, by the Cardinal de Rohan; and the next Day the Marshal de Villeroy was exiled to his Lordship of Villeroy; and 'tis said the Marshal Duke of Berwick will succeed him, in his high Post of Governor to the King.

By Letters from New-england we learn, that his Majesty's Ships the *Hector* and *Shark*, were come before the island of St. Johns, to demand a Surrender thereof by the Danes, who were settled there, and fortifying it, and actually refused to deliver it up. 'Tis added, that the Pyrates had actually taken 13 Vessels out of the Port of Rosebay, belonging to Marblehead, one of which they turned into a Pirate.

The Funeral of the Duke of Marlborough, which was thought would have been delayed, on Account of the Medals, continues fixed for Thursday next, when the King intends to stand at the Head of the Old Countess of Holderness, to see the Procession pass by: There are such flagrant Instances of Conspiracies against the Government, as may sufficiently convince the Incredulous, and render the Continuance of the Forces absolutely necessary; amongst the rest, is one John Sample, who being lately taken into Custody for high Treason, made his Escape last Sunday out of the Messenger's Hands, for whose Apprehension, a Reward of 500 L. is offered, and Expresses were sent last Night to all the Sea-ports, to prevent his getting out of the Kingdom, and the Yachts at Greenwich to stop, and search all Vessels that shall pass down the River. It appears by his Papers, he held a Correspondence with the Pretender's Court.

We hear the Household will be summoned to take the Oaths. Last Sunday Mr. Senkin and his Wife, who keeps an Ale House in Westminster, were taken into Custody, as was the next Day Mr. Campbell, but was discharged that Afternoon. A Warrant being issued out against Mr. Carte, a Nonjuring Minister, the Messengers went to take him up, but he made his Escape: We don't hear of any Discovery that was made by his Papers secured in his Lodgings.

Edinburgh, August 13. Last Week Sir Robert Sibbald of Kipps, M.D. Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, died here, in the 83 Year of his Age. He was a Person of great Piety and Learning, and Author of many learned and useful Books, especially in Natural History.

Haddington, August 10.

Best Wheat, 9 L. 2d. Ditto, 8 L. 16 sb. 3d. Ditto, 8 L.

Best Bear, 7 L. 12 sb. 2d. Ditto, 7 L. 8 sb. 3d. Ditto, 7 L. 6 sb.

Best Oats, 7 L. 3 sb. 2d. Ditto, 7 L. 3d. Ditto, 6 L. 18 sb.

Best Pease 7 L. 2d. Ditto, 6 L. 14 sb. 3d. Ditto, 6 L. 12 sb.

ADVERTISEMENT

* These are to advertise all Noblemen, Gentlemen and others, That the Publick House formerly possessed by Alexander Couper, Teacher of Music in Aberdeen, is still kept up by his Children; and all Customers will be entertained as formerly.

THE Meadow called Straiton's Meadow, lying near the City of Edinburgh, to the South of it; containing about Fifty five Acres of improvable Ground, commodiously Situate, and having a large House and Brewhary built thereupon: Is to be set in Tack for a long Term of Years, to commence from Martimals next. Such as have a Mind to take a Lease of the said Ground, may see the Conditions in the Hands of John Dinn at the Town Council-chamber, and will find the Magistrats ready to treat with them. N. B. Bruntfield-links are to be set at the same Time

† That on Saturday last, there was lost, on the High-way, betwixt Borrowstouness and Kirkcaldy, a Roll of Paper under Cover, directed to Mr. Somervel, Writer to the Signet: Whoever will bring the same to Mr. Somervel, shall have a Guinea of Reward.

† There is a Piece of Silver Plate Twenty five Pound Sterling Value, to be run for at Peebles on the usual Ground; upon the last Wednesday of August Inst. being the 29th of the Month; by any Horse, Mare or Gelding, each of them carrying eight Stone Trois Weight, allowing the Whip, Saddle and Bridle to be part of the Weight; the best in three Heats, each Heat thrice round.

The Horses which are to run for this Plate being three at least, must be at Peebles ten Days before the Race, and to be entered there by the Town Clerk, 48 Hours before the Course, and the Inputs to be six Guineas.

No Crossing nor Jostling to be allowed, and all Disputes are to be determined by Judges appointed by the Gentlemen Subscribers for the said Plate.

The Distance Post is to be ten Score Yards from the Starting Post.

The Rider after each Heat is to take off his Saddle himself, and carry it with him the Moment he dismounts to the Scales, and is to be allowed in weighing a Pound for Waste.

Half an Hour is allowed at the End of each Heat for rubbing.

If any single Horse, Mare or Gelding runs the first two Heats, if they are challenged by any of the Rest who saved their Distance, they are obliged to run again, and if they save their own Distance they win the Race, if distanced, they lose it.

If three single Horses win each of them a Heat, the Horse that wins the last Heat, wins the Plate.

If any Horse, Mare or Gelding run on the wrong Side of any of the Posts they are to run back the same Way and run Right, or else they are to be adjudged as distanced.

There is also another Piece of Plate about Eight Pound Sterling Value, to be run for on Thursday the 30th of August Inst. by any Horse, Mare or Gelding, not exceeding 14 Hands high; nor under three in number, belonging to different Owners; each Horse of 14 Hands to carry seven Stone of Trois Weight, Horses below it to be allowed Weight for Inches: To pay three Pound Sterling amongst them of Inputs. The Horses are to be at Peebles three Days before the Race, and obtain themselves entered by the Town Clerk 24 Hours before the Course, no Crossing nor Jostling to be allowed, and all Disputes to be determined by the Magistrats.

† These are to give Notice, that upon Saturday the 4th of August instant, James Gilbagie of Lawyer, in the Parish of Bothwell, a slender man, long sharp Visage'd, of a brown Complexion, speaks thick, wearing an old Ty-wig, gray Cloaths mounted with black, pretty old and torn, of forty Years of Age and upwards, made his Escape out of Hamilton Tolbooth, wherein he was incarcerated for Debt: Any Person that can give an Account of the said James Gilbagie, so as he may be apprehended, or apprehend and deliver him up to the Magistrats of Hamilton, shall have five Guineas Reward, and all Charges born.

There is to be Sold, by way of public Roup, at the House of Ms. Lightbody, on the North-side of the Way over-against the Purser, on Monday the 3d of September next, betwixt the Hours of 3 and 4 in the Afternoon, two Feus in the Lands of Dalry, now called Bransfield, whereof the one is possess'd by Anderson Brewar, and lying in Foul brigs, the yearly Rent being 114 L. 3. sh. 4 d. The other, now possess'd by Bailie Robert Mitchel, Brewar in Wrights-houses, the yearly Rent being 100 L. Scots. The Conditions of Roup and Progress of Writs, are to be seen in the Hands of James Haliburton Writer in Edinburgh, to be found at Mr. Hamilton of Daichmond's Chamber.